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Published by Sun Media Publishing Inc. • Issue No. 11 Volume 16

Pelham NEWS

Cindy Raskob

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■ COUNCIL

EU trade deal could affect Pelham's purchases

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

A trade deal between Canada and the European Union could affect Pelham taxpayers and businesses.

In a presentation to town council last week, Heather Kelley, vice-president of the Niagara Regional Labour Council, said the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA) could limit town council decisions.

see TRADE | page 2

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■ CULTURE FEST: Sixth year for St. Alexander

Students linked to the world



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Grade 2 students Jessica Zanuttini and Abby Zuidersma celebrate their Dutch heritage during Culture Fest at St. Alexander Catholic School in Fonthill. It's the sixth year for the celebration. Students this year represented 15 countries.

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

For six years, Grade 2 students at St. Alexander Catholic School have learned about other cultures by learning about their families.

Through Culture Fest, the students interview their parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles about their heritage.

In most cases, they hear about the "old country" that their parents, grandparents or great grandparents came from.

For Culture Fest, they dress up in traditional cultural attire and construct displays highlighting their heritage.

The display boards, models and flags lined the school's gymnasium as the students explain what they learn to visitors and classes of older students as they tour the countries.

Jessica Zanuttini and Abby Zuidersma talked to their mother about the Netherlands to learn about their heritage.

Victor Kelanda had lots of sources for his project on Hungary. Everyone in his family jumped in.

see CULTURE FEST | page 2

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upfront

■ TRADE

Niagara Regional Labour Council urges action

FROM PAGE 2

"We believe that CETA as it is currently contemplated would negatively restrict the ability of the town council, its area municipalities and other public institutions within Niagara to make the procurement decisions necessary to revive the manufacturing economy in the area," she said.

Local businesses and unions are encouraging municipalities, hospitals, school boards, libraries, power and water utilities and other area institutions to buy local whenever possible.

"Currently, procurement practices tend to be open and transparent but municipalities still have the power to ensure calls for tenders require some proportion of goods and services to meet some local benefit," Kelly said.

"It has been reported that the CETA would apply to all municipalities except above thresholds of \$300,000 for goods and services and \$8 million for construction."

The deal, she said, would give the largest Canadian and European corporations access to the largest municip-

Municipalities still have the power to ensure calls for tenders require some proportion of goods and services to meet some local benefit.

Heather Kelly,
vice-president of the Niagara
Regional Labour Council

ipal contracts. It could lead to foreign control of local municipalities and long delays in terms of cost for projects.

The labour council asked town council to support a resolution seeking "a clear permanent exemptions" for the Niagara Region, Pelham, area municipalities, hospitals, municipalities, school board, universities and other agencies "to use public procurement, services and investment tools to create joint impact on the environment and support local development."

Town council received the resolution and referred it to town staff for a report.

Later in the meeting it passed a bylaw covering

procurement policies and procedures. The 51-page policy includes steps to buy goods and services for the town.

It refers to trade agreements including the North American Free Trade Agreement and an Ontario-Quebec deal.

In the document it says: "Where an applicable trade agreement supersedes and is in conflict with this policy, the trade agreement shall take precedence."

Canada and the EU are in the ninth round of negotiations, which began in 2008, on the Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreements.

Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada said on its website "Both Canada and the EU are committed to maintaining the momentum of the negotiations thus far with the aim of concluding in 2012."

The 27-member EU is Canada's second largest trading partner after the United States.

In 2010, Canadian goods and services exports to the EU totalled \$49.1 billion, and imports from the EU amounted to \$55.2 billion."

■ CULTURE FEST



KATHLEEN PHELAN Staff Photo

Katherine Phelan tries Hungarian salami on bread at Grade 2 student Victor Kelenda's Hungarian exhibit during Culture Fest at St. Alexander Catholic School Wednesday. Phelan came to see her granddaughter's display on their Italian Heritage.

Students go international

FROM PAGE 2

"I'm the first born in Canada," he explained.

Kathleen Phelan, stopped at his booth to sample his Hungarian specialty.

She was visiting her granddaughter's Italian exhibit.

About 16 countries, including England, Scotland and Ireland, Trinidad and Tobago, the Philippines and Germany, were represented.

One display outlined a Canadian aboriginal background of a student.

Grade 2 teachers Tracy Goodwin and Venessa Serrano organized the project as a good way to introduce the children other parts of the world by tying it in with their own families.

"It helps them to relate," said Goodwin.

"They quickly realize they

have a personal relationship," said Serrano as they explore the food, music, legends, and personal stories of their past.

Culture Fest is popular with parents, grandparents and friends who tour the exhibits carrying a passport they received at the door of the school gymnasium.

Each exhibitor "stamps" the passports with a sticker.

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Ken Koyuras

MANAGING EDITOR
Wayne Campbell, senior

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perspective



Wayne Campbell
EDITOR

Summerfest now four days long

Summerfest, a one-day street party in 2011, will become a four-day festival in 2012 from July 19-22.

The party last July, celebrated the end of reconstruction of Pelham St.

Organizers closed the street to erect a stage, to fence in a beer toral, to tout out patio seating in front of restaurants and to take advantage of the large Ontario's Liquor laws allowing for wonderdrifters.

In its first year, the Saturday event included children's entertainment, walking and running events, bike rodeo, safety lessons, vendors and business promotions.

This year, the one-day bash will turn into a four-day extravaganza, as pointed out by Ward 2 Coun. Gary Accursi, at last week's meeting. He represents town council on the Summerfest organizing committee.

Summerfest will stretch out to include the Thursday evening Pelham Farmers Market and Fonthill Bandshell Concert.

It will feature a four-day art show, a Friday night of the arts, and a Friday VIP gala.

On Saturday, July 21, the activities will resemble last summer's party with something for everyone from kids to arts to vendors, drinkers and entertainers.

Sunday will include a community brunch, bandshell music and climax of the art show.

Funding, of course, is continuing with the Summerfest committee meeting every couple of weeks.

However, it looks like the momentum is well underway to develop a signature — to use a cliché — festival for Pelham.

It will be a cozy production. It ties in already popular farmers market and bandshell concerts with an outdoor art show and our love of a community friendly to walking, running and cycling.

Tell your friends and relatives to come down for the weekend.

comment

Garbage tag fee hiked

Regional Council approved an increase to the garbage tag fee from \$1 to \$2 effective April 30. Some may think that this was done to raise revenues. In fact, if the fee remained at \$1 the anticipated 2012 revenue would be \$330,000, hiking the fee to \$2 would raise the revenue to fit to \$26,000.

The motivator here is to increase the amount of diversion from the waste stream into recyclables and compostables.

While green bags are the common containers set out at the curbside, many homeowners have found that the large Rubbermaid style containers meet the one container



Brian Baty
REGIONAL COUNCIL VIEW

limit but have greater capacity than the green bags.

In our household, we have become pretty effective at sorting material and are down to less than half a container of garbage most weeks of the year. It appears that most of Pelham residents also support this need to recycle and compost.

While it must be a messy job,

regional staff randomly pick up and open "garbage" containers to analyze the contents.

As you know, we have seen the implementation of the new level of service over the last year. While the garbage container has been limited to one per week, the grey box, blue bin and brown bin have no limits and all containers can be placed out every week; eliminating the confusion over which week is it.

During two waste audits the number of garbage containers dropped from 725 to 571. During those same audits the green bin usage increased more than 6% and the recyclable boxes increased more than 3%.

While these test results are positive there still is much that we can do.

Analysis of garbage containers shows that we still have six to seven percent of the materials in the garbage that should be in the blue or grey boxes. The "yucky" stuff that should be in the green bin accounts for 10 percent and continues to remain in the garbage.

Whether you backlog compost or use the green bin, elimination of compostables from the garbage is the key to environmental sustainability.

Given this information, if you still are concerned about the increases in fees, you may be more accepting in that the fee has not changed since 1996. The store where tags are purchased will continue to charge a 20-cent handling fee, so add that to the tag fee barely covers the actual cost of processing. Several other communities were surveyed and tag fees range from \$1 to \$3.10 with most tag fees ranging to increase in the near future.

On April 30, you need to put two bag tags on extra garbage or one of the new coloured tags.

Brian Baty is a Niagara Regional Councillor for the Town of Pelham
brian.baty@niagararegion.ca

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Cracking down on human trafficking and human smuggling

Canada is known for its generous and fair immigration and refugee system. We open our doors to those who want to live a better life in our country and who will work hard, play by the rules, and contribute to society. However, such a generous system makes us a target for illegal activities such as human trafficking and human smuggling.

These two crimes are sometimes confused with one another. Human trafficking is often described as a modern form of slavery. It involves the transporting of people for the purpose of exploitation, typically through maltreatment or forced labour.

Human smuggling usually involves an agreed upon payment in order to be smuggled by way of an illegal vessel into another country. Unlike trafficking victims, the smuggled person usually consents to the activity — meaning the relationship can be compared to a voluntary business transaction.

Not only are human trafficking and human smuggling illegal, the two



Dean Allison
FROM THE HILL

types of criminal activity also victimize refugees who seek to come to Canada the right and legal way. These crimes will not be tolerated in our generous country.

Our government is taking action to stop the abuse and provide support to victims of these crimes. As part of the Anti-Slavery and Combating Human Trafficking Act — a collection of ten bills that were stalled or completely blocked by the opposition in the previous Parliament, we included the "Preventing the Trafficking, Abuse and Exploitation of Vulnerable Immigrants Act." This legislation will authorize immigration officers to refuse work permits to the vulnerable when it's deemed they are at risk of degrading treatment. This includes, for instance, sexual exploitation and forced labour.

In addition, as promised in our 2011 election platform, our Government will work on developing and implementing a "National Action Plan on Combating Human Trafficking." A cross-governmental resource to this growing crime is needed to ensure that Canada progresses toward eliminating it for good. Also, we will take action to support organizations providing assistance to victims of this terrible abuse.

In fact, we already launched two national anti-trafficking awareness campaigns, "Blue Blanket" and "I'm Not for Sale." In 2010, the first campaign is to raise awareness of the potential dangers of human trafficking and to provide information to the public on how to use the Crime Stoppers national tip line to anonymously report suspected cases.

The "I'm Not for Sale" campaign involves the development of posters to target not only the public, but also potential victims.

And finally, we have made supporting victims a priority. In

November 2010, we launched the national "Victims Matter" campaign, aimed at helping victims of human trafficking, their families and those who care for them. The campaign aired on television, the campaign aired on print, and in print.

Meanwhile, our government also stands firmly in the belief that human smuggling operations have to stop. We will no longer let these criminals take advantage of our generous immigration system. We have reintroduced legislation that will prosecute smuggling operations, deter illegal migrants from resorting to such methods, and maintain the safety and fitness of our immigration system.

Canada's approach to these despotic crimes is that they will not be tolerated. For too long, criminals have been taking advantage of innocent migrants and our generous country. Victims and their families can count on our Conservative Government to provide long-term support, and to work for the integrity of our immigration system.

LIBRARY EVENTS

Making It Through Menopause Dealing with hot flashes, forgetfulness & mood swings. Decreasing the risk of fracture due to osteoporosis. Ladies, let's get together & talk hormones! Natalie, a Physician Assistant student from McMaster University will be here to answer questions & provide info on the risks of hormone therapy, relief from symptoms and what really is going on with your body! Wednesday, March 21 at 6:30 p.m. Please register ahead.

Grant Book Sale Opens Tuesday, March 27 at 9:30 a.m. Closes Saturday, March 31 at 1:00 p.m. Great deals! Fill a library bag for \$16.00. Books, puzzles, movies, games, and more! Open during regular library hours. Final Saturday is Bargain Day. Fill a grocery bag for \$2.00 (some restrictions apply).

Sony E-reader Learn step by step how to download and read books from the Pelham Library's Overdrive e-books on a Sony E-reader. You must have basic computer skills. A laptop computer will be provided. Please bring your Sony, your email address and a Pelham Public Library card in good standing. Main, 2810 at 10:00 a.m. or Mar, 29th at 2:00 p.m. Register ahead in person, \$5.00.

Katie Ward Meets Laura Secord - A Super Unnatural Fairytale - Fourteen-year-old Katie is really looking forward to her summer. She is thrilled to have hired as a tour guide at the Laura Secord Homestead in Queenston. This is just the beginning of an adventure.

that will change her life! Maja Bannerman, playwright, poet, actress, musician and tour guide plays Katie as part of Pelham Library's 1812 Commemorations. Tuesday, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. All ages. \$5 per person. Please register ahead.

"Tell Your Tale" Storytelling for Seniors Do you have a story to tell? Want to get in touch with your creative side or try your hand at performing in front of a small audience? This course is for your writing, editing and storytelling – these classes have it all! To celebrate your hard work, there will be a public presentation of your skits and scripts as a library fundraiser in June. Tuesdays starting April 3, 10:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m., \$5.00 per person for the 10-class course. Please register ahead * Note: there is no class on May 24th

Book Buzz Be the first to hear about new releases, the next book in your favourite author's series and the "buzz" about the next potential bestseller. Pelham Public Library's "lit chicks" will sneak titles out of the cataloguers' fair for these sessions. Wednesday.

Sock-mania Knitting Class Sock-mania is back! Do you knit but have never tried making socks? This class is for you. Learn basic sock construction from the cuff down. Elaine Anderson, sock addict, will take you through the steps to create a mini sock. Thurs., April 5 - May 10, 7:30 - 9:00. Register ahead in person, \$6.00. Check for list of materials you will need at time of registration. Knitting experience is required.

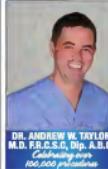
LAMPMANS BACKING GREAT KIDS



VICTORIA GRAY Staff photo

Tribune circulation manager, Karin Vanderzee, left, acknowledges Lampmans Furniture, represented by co-owner, Glen Muir as a Bronze Level Sponsor for the 2012 Search for Great Kids. Twenty-four youth will be honoured for their acts of kindness, personal achievement or ability to overcome challenges at the seventh annual Great Kids Awards Gala on April 29th. Of the 24, six individuals will receive a \$500 RESP from Meridian Credit Union. Nomination forms are available inside The Tribune, sponsor locations or www.wellandtribune.ca. Nominations will be accepted until March 16.

Over 100,000 people have trusted their vision to Lasik Provision



Dr. ANDREW M. TAYLOR,
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More consumers now realize the tangible economic benefit of laser vision correction. If you are a contact lens wearer the average monthly cost for contacts and supplies is between \$75-\$100 dollars. This represents an annual cost of roughly \$1,500 dollars since most patients require a back up pair of glasses every 12-24 months. One has typically spent about \$7,500 dollars over the last 5 years and will have similar cost over the next 20 years. In fact patients dramatically reduce the cost of contacts and the time it takes to correct the effect of lasik can last a lifetime making your investment more cost efficient.

At Lasik Provision, laser vision correction is viewed as an art form. Dr. Andrew Taylor has honed selected an experienced team of individuals who are constantly striving to provide the finest in all aspects of your laser experience. Dr. Andrew Taylor will personally perform your laser eye surgery. He has been serving the residents of South Western Ontario and the Northern United States for over 20 years. He is one of a select few individuals who have the knowledge and expertise to offer the latest procedures to achieve the results you desire. Lasik Provision has superior technology and Dr. Andrew Taylor has personally used every major laser platform that is available in North America today. He lectures internationally in the field of laser eye surgery and on laser platforms. He is involved in the regulatory studies for the approval of new devices and procedures. Dr. Andrew Taylor has chosen the Zeiss

MEL 80TM Excimer laser and the Visumax Femtosecond Laser as his preferred platform. Our Zeiss Femtosecond laser is the most advanced technology currently available. In optics, there are likely to be things we see at home in your camera. Zentis Medics utilizes advanced engineering profiles which produce predictable, refractive outcomes which is what you want as a refractive eye surgeon.

The Zentis MEL 80TM Excimer laser custom treats each eye with Wavefront technology. This laser is one of the fastest in the world; it uses dual eye tracking for accuracy and centration. It also uses a beam-shaping technique to reduce the size of the laser spot. Visual quality is improved as a result of a smooth transition between the two eyes. The laser rotates around the eye to correct the refractive error. It is known as Zentis' BLENDED VISION, and is based on the principle of micro-refraction. It allows the eyes to maintain different focusing depths. Both eyes are corrected for intermediate distance at all times with one eye having a range of vision from 20 feet away and the other eye having a range of vision extending to infinity. This is a trademark of Zentis' Wavefront technology. The laser beam is focused on the cornea and matches the cornea using different power zones to create useful spherical aberration; making the image disparity between the two eyes so small that the brain doesn't notice which eye it is using for far and near. This is the most exciting device in laser eye surgery today, trusting old age eye care.

Lasik Provision is using the Zentis Medics Visumax Femtosecond laser for flap creation in laser eye surgery. Dr. Andrew Taylor is now only performing complex bladeless laser procedures. The Zentis Medics Visumax Femtosecond laser is the most advanced laser available. The Zentis femtosecond laser offers an opportunity to have the potential for laser. It uses minimal energy, allowing more precision and less tissue disruption and therefore faster healing.

Your eyes are precious and Dr. Andrew Taylor looks forward to providing you with a level and kindness that exceeds your expectations. Life was not meant to be lived through glasses or contact lenses; life is about freedom. With these new technological breakthroughs, there has never been a better and safer time to experience the freedom so many millions of people have enjoyed with laser eye surgery.

On behalf of the entire staff at Lasik Provision we look forward to working with you.

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JIM, Police Officer



"I'm a police officer and contract in the line of duty was a huge factor. To my surprise, I found that I could do my job sitting up or lying down in instant in rain or snow, even contact lenses would dry out before the end of a twelve hour shift. I was able to continue my career and still be a dad. I am very thankful for the visual quality and the fact that I can see very well now. I am a very good police officer and I am very good at my job."



"I have referred to it as a minor miracle! After many years of wearing irritating contact lenses and also needing reading glasses, I have now thrown them all away! With my new absolute vision I can see clearly near and far! I am absolutely thrilled with the results!"

BAB, Optometrist

"I am blessed with the vision, sharpness and ability since having laser eye surgery with Dr. Taylor. It has enabled me to work more efficiently without having to put glasses on and off all the time. I am very grateful for Dr. Taylor's skills and professionalism for giving my eyesight."

FATIMA, Youth Worker

"I can thank myindsight and appreciation for Dr. Taylor and his entire staff, having had successful Lasik surgery performed with absolutely no complications. I am very grateful for the excellent treatment and care that I received from every single person that I came into contact with during the course of that day."

DON, Workplace Safety & Insurance Specialist

■ **MARCH BREAK:** History of maple syrup making leaves sweet tooth with a mouthful of knowledge

Sugar bush offers sweet taste of spring

VICTORIA GRAY
PelhamNEWS Staff

One of Canada's sweetest pieces of history comes alive this March break.

Agape Valley Sugar Bush, on Kilman Rd. in Pelham, gives children of all ages and adults an opportunity to learn about the history of maple syrup and how it's made, all in a fun-filled environment.

Steve Dube, volunteer co-ordinator at Agape Valley, said many people don't know

how maple syrup is processed and its sugar content.

"If you haven't been here, you will really enjoy it. We make it fun for the kids," he said. "I love maple syrup and it's great to gain that knowledge of our history."

Parking and admission are free, though any donations go toward Agape's summer Bible camp programs.

Visitors can eat a hearty pancake breakfast, topped with Agape's very own syrup, along with sausages and eggs. After breakfast visi-

Learning the process helps me appreciate the value and work put into the process of maple syrup."

Steve Dube, volunteer co-ordinator at Agape Valley

tors can enjoy a hayride to the sugar bush and take a guided tour that explains how Native Americans made syrup, how pioneers made syrup and

how the volunteers at Agape make it today.

"The technology today allows us to make it much faster," Dube said. "Learning the process helps me appreciate the value and work put into the process of maple syrup."

Christopher Mussat celebrated his 10th birthday at Agape last Saturday with his family. He said they came last year for his birthday and he had a blast, so he wanted to come again.

"It's cool to see how the sap gets made into maple syrup, and Sammy the Super Squirrel is great," he said.

Children can have their pictures taken with Sammy and Billy Bob the Busy Bee in the dining room.

Maple syrup is 99% sugar, however, it is also perishable and this year volunteers will offer beeswax candle-making demonstrations.

Visitors are welcome to go into the sugar shack and pur-



VICTORIA GRAY Staff Photo

Spencer Burke, left, his sister Ella, and cousin Aaliyah Alfieri spent Saturday morning at Agape Valley Sugar Bush with their grandparents for a day of fun and learning. The sugar bush is open every day this March break giving free guided tours and much more.

chase everything maple.

"It's a nice educational family day where the kids also get to learn something about our history," Dube said.

Following its March Break

daily opening, Agape Valley Sugar Bush is open Saturdays through March.

victoria.gray@sunmedia.ca

Twitter: @VixeyG



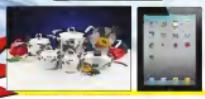
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■ WRITING: Christian suspense writer Sandra Orchard

Pelham author signing new book

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

Sandra van den Bogerd has a busy schedule.

The North Pelham resident, who writes under the name Sandra Orchard, has a book signing for her just released book, a soon-to-be confirmed contract for three more, and an appearance as a faculty member at a June writing conference.

Orchard writes Christian romance suspense novels under the Love Inspired Suspense label, part of Harlequin novels.

She will sign copies of *Shades of Truth* in a joint event with debut Love Inspired Historical novelist, Eva Maria Hamilton of Amherstburg.

On Saturday, March 24, they will be at Heritage Christian Book Store in the Grantham Plaza, St. Catharines, from 1 p.m. to 3

p.m.

The novel, the second in Orchard's Undercover Cop series, is set in a fictional Niagara town.

It depicts an undercover cop's mission to ferret out the person recruiting residents of a youth detention centre into a drug ring.

The hero, however, finds himself battling a compassionate young woman who thinks he is a cop and his heart, said Orchard.

While she's signing her books, her mind may be on a three trade-length book offer she has from a major American Christian publisher.

They will be longer romantic suspense novels with a different town and characters, although she will sneak in a Niagara town.

"I could put the fictional Niagara town on Lake Erie or even Lake Ontario," she chuckled. It would have an

American state address to conform with the publishers' preference.

She said she couldn't reveal the publisher until the deal is signed.

In June, Orchard will be part of a panel at a Guelph writing conference called Write!Canada.

There she will be speaking to aspiring Christian novelists and will critique manuscripts. A piece of advice is to take time to learn the craft of writing before looking for a publisher.

It takes time and practise to develop the skills of writing and storytelling.

"My daughter plays the violin well," but it took years of practice and learning technique, she said.

Writing is the same. Unlike a painter, who can specific art to sell, such as an event or memoir, rushing to self publish could hurt a writer, she said.

If you don't sell well a publisher doesn't want to see a second book, she said.

"The hardest thing is to sell your second book if the first ones bombs."

There is an advantage of having one or two practice books in your computer or desk drawer.

If you do have a successful book, a publisher will want you to come up with another quickly, she said.

By applying what you learned during your successful book to revisions of the earlier ones, can get a writer rolling.

Nothing comes quickly in the writing business.

Orchard said she had almost forgotten about the proposal that led to her most recent three-book offer. She submitted it about 18 months before.

Eva Maria Hamilton's novel, *Highland Hearts*, set in 1748 Scotland, tells the tale of a freed indentured servant



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Pelham writer Sandra van den Bogerd, who writes under the name Sandra Orchard, holds a copy of her latest book *Shades of Truth*, a Love Inspired Suspense novel. For a book signing event, she will join Love Inspired Historical novelist, Eva Maria Hamilton of Amherstburg on Saturday, March 24, at Heritage Christian Book Store in the Grantham Plaza, St. Catharines, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

who returns to Scotland for his true love only to find her betrothed to another.

Orchard's and Hamilton's books are available in stores this month, wherever Harlequin series books are

sold, after which they will only be available by special order from online sellers, or from Believer's Bookshelf in Beamsville and Heritage Christian Bookstore in St. Catharines.

The Healthy Cupboard

W. Gifford-Jones, M.D.
Naturopathic Systemic Journalist

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"Where can I get another tube of MYO-MED?" a health food store owner asked. "How can I get this now all-natural, home-free analgesic help paint� painkiller cream? Today, 21 million North Americans suffer daily the agony of arthritis. Others see their quality of life diminished by sports injuries, backaches, sore muscles and the range of aging joints."

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have been reported by using this natural cream.

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BodySmart, Bryant, ALA is a viva-vite plant native to the woods of Europe. It's particularly effective for the pain associated with motion. It's also helpful in the treatment of neck, back pain and those suffering from fibromyalgia. MYO-MED also what's called a "Natural Delivery System"; it's a process that quickly carries these six anti-inflammatory

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■ COUNCIL: \$35,000 goes onto principal for property loan

Pelham puts \$138,481 surplus into reserves

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

Town council expects a surplus of \$138,481 from its 2011 budget.

Treasurer Cari Pupo said the town is waiting for completion of the 2011 audit to confirm the surplus.

The surplus was outlined for council's general committee on Monday.

Pupo said it came from a combination of \$21,973 in increased revenues, and

\$133,275 in savings from decreased expenses.

The revenues included \$17,083 more from bylaw and parking sources.

In expenses, Pupo said "economics have been realized in materials and supplies, and contracted services due to competitive purchasing and reduction in scope requirements."

The town will put \$35,000 on the principle of a loan for the purchase of land at Regional Rd. 20 and Rice Rd.

The town bought 12.9 hect-

ares for \$3.2 million in 2008. Part of it was intended as a site for a recreational complex. The rest of it was to be sold off to recover the cost. The principal on the loan was down to \$2,151 million at the end of 2011.

A decision on the use of the property has yet to be made. That decision will be influenced by a report this summer from town's recreation facilities committee.

From the \$138,481 surplus for 2011, Pupo recommended putting \$50,000 into a commu-

nity improvement plan reserve fund.

In answer to a question from Ward 1 Coun. Larry Clark, she said it would bring that fund up to \$170,000.

Community improvement plan funds are used to encourage downtown property owners to upgrade building fronts. It can be combined with similar Niagara Region grants.

Property owners in downtown Fonthill have recently drawn on the funds to supplement their spending.

The town will place \$25,000 into a facilities reserve fund for future work on town-owned buildings.

Another \$25,000 will go into a land-acquisition reserve fund with the remainder of the surplus, \$3,481, going into a working funds reserve.

"All recommended use of surplus funds ensures that the town is using its resources to secure short-term financial requirements while at the same time setting funds aside for future long-term require-

ments," said Pupo in her report. "This will eliminate any volatility in future operating budget requests."

Pupo said the surplus may have been higher except for a decrease in "payments in lieu" paid to the town by other governments. An annual assessment of the properties saw a decline of \$16,767.

"It is noted that all area municipalities together with Niagara Region are working together to correct the P.I.I. issue," she said in her report.

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Larry J. Gallant
FINANCIAL VIEW
ADVERTORIAL

The RRSP contribution deadline for the 2011 tax year has past. It's not all that surprising that many contributions went into guaranteed investment certificates (GICs) paying anywhere from 1.2%–2%. For many Canadians, investing has not been a top priority over the last few years. Perhaps you're one of them. After all, we've seen a lot of troubling news that makes the average investor leery about putting their hard-earned money into investments that have not met expectations. Much of this has to do with a market that can seem out of control with headline after headline of doom and gloom. However painful it

may be hear, today's interest on GICs will not get you to retirement and with today's inflation rates, will not allow you to maintain your current lifestyle.

Partnering with a Financial Advisor allows you to cut through all the "noise" associated with investing. Without this professional advice, investors have difficulty when making decisions. Investment decisions being often emotion gets in the way. Being bombarded with "information overload" makes it difficult to know where to invest on your own.

If you already have a Financial Advisor but still have feelings of dread when it comes to investing, perhaps it's time that you considered moving your portfolio to an Independent Financial Advisor. What's the difference between a Financial Advisor and an Independent Financial Advisor? Both are registered

and governed by the Ontario Securities Commission. The biggest difference is that Independent Financial Advisors are not associated with any one investment provider and therefore are not subject to monthly quotes or required to sell "in house" products. They offer true unbiased advice when recommending investment products. There are thousands of investments to choose from in Canada.

"Today's interest on GICs will not get you to retirement and with today's inflation, will not allow you to maintain your current lifestyle"

Investment specialists agree that by partnering with an Independent Financial Advisor, you increase your chances of success. With over 30 years in the financial services industry, I'll work with

you to create a plan and tailor a portfolio that has the best chance to meet or exceed your goals within your risk tolerance. That's the best formula for a successful investing experience! To arrange a free no obligation review of your portfolio or to discuss this article, email larry.gallant@queensbury.com, call me at 905-892-2100 or visit my website at www.gallantfinancial.ca.

Larry J. Gallant is an independent financial advisor with Queensbury Securities Inc., a member of the Canadian Investor Protection Fund and the Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada.

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■ COUNCIL

Wide spread in Pelham watermain tender bids

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEW Staff

A few eyebrows raised when town council looked at tender bids for replacement of the Church Hill watermain in Fonthill.

The bids ranged from a low of \$42,363 to a high of \$470,542.

Ward 3 Coun. Peter Papp wondered how the bids could be so far apart.

The highest almost doubled the lowest, he said.

The other seven were within \$100,000 of the lowest.

The contract went to the lowest bidder, O'Hara Trucking and Excavating Inc. of St. Catharines.

The town had budgeted \$335,000 for

the work, which treasurer Cari Pupo said is not revealed during the bidding process.

Allan Mannell, acting director of community and infrastructure services, said the town is familiar with the winning bidder.

You can never tell the thinking that goes behind bids, he said. It often depends on how much work a company has.

The Church Hill watermain is one of the oldest in Pelham.

The work will include replacement of service pipes to each lot from the watermain to the edge of the road allowance. It will also include a pressure reducing valve where the Church Hill watermain meets the Pelham St. watermain.

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■ HOCKEY: Irish avenge loss to Saltfleet in SOSSA championship

Notre Dame off to OFSAA for first time in girls hockey

BERND FRANKE
PelhamNEWS Staff

WELLAND — Revenge tasted a lot like metal — championship gold, to be exact — after Notre Dame defeated Saltfleet for the Southern Ontario Secondary Schools Association (SOSSA) girls hockey title.

In addition to giving the Fighting Irish their first-ever regional championship, the 3-2 victory was payback for a disappointing loss to the Hamilton-area school in last year's final.

Notre Dame played two elimination games at the regional qualifying tournament which was held in St. Catharines and hosted by Denis Morris.

Fourth-year veteran Valerie Vanderzalm, with four goals; and Kathryn Simpson scored to give the Irish a 5-3 victory over Grimsby in the semifinals, with Vanderzalm, with two; and rookie Marquis Davoli accounting for the offence in the gold medal game.

Tori Menard played both games in goal for Notre Dame and was well on her way to earning a shutout in the rematch with Saltfleet when "a little penalty trouble" turned a 2-0 lead into a knotted score heading into the third period.

Fittingly, this time the battle against Saltfleet, resulted in the Irish regaining the lead in the suddenly frantic final period. Davoli from the point on the power play with five minutes remaining in regulation, her eventual game winner, starting a countdown that couldn't go fast enough on the Notre Dame bench.

"That was a long five minutes," recalled Fighting Irish coach Ted Shellphorne who, like his players, feared a repeat of last year's disappointing loss to Saltfleet in the gold medal game.

In the 2011 SOSSA final, which was played at Welland Arena, Vanderzalm scored twice in the final minute as Notre Dame rebounded from a three-goal deficit only to



Supplied photo

Notre Dame players and coaches celebrate the high school's first-ever Southern Ontario Secondary Schools Association girls hockey championship after edging Saltfleet in a rematch of last year's final: front row, from left, Catherine O'tley, Marquis Davoli, Kara McDermott, Kylie Wilson, Sarah Simpson, Tiff any Campbell, Vanessa Vanderzalm, Kathryn Simpson, Mare Vanlankveld, coach Ted Shellphorne, back row, Katelyn MacDonald, coach Kevin Grand, Nikki Johnstone, Hannah Vanlankveld, Taylor Morris, Tori Menard and coach Angela Belcastro.

fall short in a 4-3 loss.

Shellphorne called the win for the SOSSA championships the team's best finish of the season so far.

"We played awesomely. That was probably the best team we've had all season. Our players are a year older. They weren't intimidated this year."

As last year, when they compiled an overall record of 25-5-2, the Fighting Irish were equally formidable going 23-2-3 this year. Their only two losses on their way to the Ontario Federation of

School Athletic Association triple A and quad A championships March 20-23 in Mississauga were E.L. Crossley, a double A school.

"We're really looking forward to OFSAA just goes to show how strong girl's hockey is becoming in the Welland area," Shellphorne said.

Despite a nearly unblemished record this season, Notre Dame had to overcome adversity, especially to the ice where the team had to cope with two deaths.

Bill Campbell, whose daughter Tiffany is one of

the squad's veteran leaders, was killed Dec. 13 in a collision on Hwy. 401 near Ingersoll while the team was competing at a tournament in London. Less than two weeks later schoolgirl Juilia Turner, who played field lacrosse with many of the girls on the hockey team, lost her battle with cancer. She was only 15.

"They stand up for each other, they never lose hope," said Shellphorne, who called the "strength of the unit" the team's greatest strength.

"There's a lot of character

on the team."

Notre Dame will play four games at the 16-team, all-Ontario finals being played in Mississauga either advancing through the divisional or consolation side of the bracket following three games in pool play.

Shellphorne doesn't know who the Irish will be playing but expects to face nothing but top-calibre competition.

"It will be a challenge. Some of those Toronto schools are huge," he said.

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■ SKATING: Fourth in regional

Fonthill girl wins gold

For PelhamNEWS

Local figure skater, Amber Snyder, representing the Team Winter Club of St. Catharines, has enjoyed an exceptional year competing in the Women's Junior Bronze Starskate category.

At 12 years of age, Amber trains six days a week with her coach Ron Shaver of St. Catharines and Fort Erie Skating Club.

Working with a great

coach coupled with her hard work and dedication to the sport has paid off for Snyder.

She recently won a Gold Medal in her flight and fourth overall out of 63 competitors at the Western Ontario Starskate Championships, in Kitchener, Ont.

Amber also won a Silver Medal at the John McKay Memorial in Tillsonburg and the Charles Dover Memorial in Grimsby this past season.



Supplied Photo

Fonthill's Amber Snyder and her coach Ron Shaver at the Western Ontario Starskate Championship in Kitchener. Amber recently earned a gold standing.



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■ NOTRE DAME: Three bands headed to Ottawa

Music students crave gold

MARYANNE FIRTH
PelhamNEWS Staff

WELLAND — It might be the golden opportunity Notre Dame College School has been waiting for.

Musicians from the Smith St. school have travelled to Ottawa four of the past seven years in an attempt to claim gold at MusicFest Canada.

And after snagging a gold and two silver medals at the regional competition, Royal Canadian MusicFest at the end of February, they'll be looking back for one more kick at the proverbial crown.

But don't be mistaken — in their four visits to the national event, the local musicians didn't come home empty handed.

"They've earned seven silver medals, making the craving for gold that much more tangible," said Firth.

MusicFest Canada's 40th year takes place May 14 to 17 at the Canadian National Arts Centre.

"They're ecstatic to be attending," director Fraser Hebert said of his students.

Four bands from the school participated in the regional competition in February, including the senior jazz band, which claimed a gold medal in the jazz division, jazz combo, concert band and junior concert band. The



Supplied photo

Forty-five Notre Dame College School musicians are heading to Ottawa in May to compete at Canada MusicFest. Shown are members of the Notre Dame jazz band including, front from left, Andrew Colonicu, Kayla Fuller and Jenna Cino, and, in back from left, Chris Garafalo, Derek Naar, Zach Marchis, Jarett Giroux.

concert bands each claimed a silver medal at regionals.

Last year Notre Dame received three gold medals at the regional level, earning the school an instant invitation to attend this year's nationals.

Three of the four bands will attend, with only the junior concert band staying behind.

While at the competition, students not only perform but also participate in a series of workshops with "world-class musicians," Hebert said.

It's an experience all 45 are greatly looking forward to, he

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■ HOCKEY: Division A playoffs

Atom Tigers place third

For PelhamNEWS

The McDonalds Atom Tigers ended their six-game Division A playoffs with a 3-1-2 record, good enough for third place in the 18-team Niagara District Local League.

Their first game was a fast-paced match against Niagara-on-the-Lake No. 1. The Tigers held a 3-1 lead at the end of the second period thanks to goals by West Lincoln's Harmon Narbonne and Drew Colangelo, Jack Odebyn from Narbonne and Nicholas Longo, and Elijah Taylor from Mitchell Karnay. But NOTL came on strong in the third period, and despite another Tiger goal by Narbonne, tied the game with just 18 seconds remaining on the clock.

The Tigers' second game was never in doubt as they faced West Lincoln No. 2. The

Tigers took an early lead on a goal from Dan Durkin, found in the second period, from Elijah Taylor, two from Harmon Narbonne, Tyler Scott, Longo, Glancy and another from Durkin.

After West Lincoln tied it up again, Taylor took a one-man charge to the net to return the Tigers to the lead. West Lincoln again responded and the game ended in a tie after curfew with a 4-4 draw.

The Tigers' game against Niagara-on-the-Lake No. 3 was a nail-biter with the scoreless half played first period. Elijah Taylor found the back of the net to give the Tigers the lead. The team took control in the final frame when Harmon Narbonne scored. Drew Colangelo put a nice little backhander in the back of the net, and Taylor capped off the 4-1 victory with his second goal of the night. The Tigers and West Lincoln

No. 3 traded goals with each other throughout the intense battle. West Lincoln was first to score, but the Tigers held a 2-1 lead at the end of the 1st period thanks to goals by Dan Durkin and Wyatt Glancy.

After West Lincoln took a first playoff loss against Pelham No. 4, with the only Tiger goal posted by Dan Durkin.

The Tigers' game against Niagara-on-the-Lake No. 4 was a highlight-reel-worthy one as Harmon Narbonne took a shot from his knees that found its way past the netminder. That was the first in a hat trick game for Narbonne. Taylor netted his own goal and Durkin scored twice in the 6-2 win.

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

Claims against the Estate of Luigi Comisa,
late of Port Colborne, in the Province of
Ontario, died January 1, 2011, on the day of
December, 2011, must be presented to the
Administrator of the Estate at the address of
March 30, 2012, after which date the assets of
the Estate will be distributed.

Christopher E. H. Wilson, Estate Trustee
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license. Open or closed
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a large number of
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**LEGAL
NOTICES**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

Claims against the Estate of GERALD
CECIL, late of Port Colborne, in the Province of
Ontario, died January 1, 2011, on the day of
December 27th, 2011, must be in our hands by
April 20, 2012, after which date the assets of

the Estate will be distributed.

Jim Munro, Estate Trustee
c/o WILSON, OPATOVSKY
Barristers & Solicitors
190 Elm Street, P. O. Box 99
Port Colborne, Ontario
L3K 5V7

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Saturday, April 7th, 2012

Be sure to have your copy and
photo (if desired) to The Tribune
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Friday, March 30, 2012
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Obituaries | In Memoriam | Thanks | Births | Announcements | More

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\$1.50
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199
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**SAVE
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**1/2
PRICE**

**3.99
lb.**

CUT FROM CANADA AAA BEEF BONELESS INSIDE ROUND ROAST

**SAVE
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LB.**

3.99
lb.

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Piller's BLACK FOREST HAM	1/2 PRICE	3.99 lb.
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FRESH PORK PUPO'S HOT OR MILD ITALIAN SAUSAGE

**SAVE
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lb.

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LB.**

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Each

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